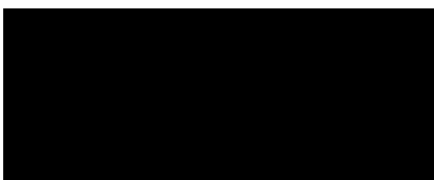




26 SEP 2017



Dear 

Thank you for your email of 29 August 2017 to the Ministry's Media Team in which you request information about property maintenance funding at Rangitoto College (the College). Specifically, you are interested in the level of funding granted to the College compared to other schools.

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982.

Funding for property maintenance and development at state schools is based on individual Ten Year Property Plans (10YPP). These set out a schedule of property works for each school's succeeding ten year period. Funding for this work is provided through a Five Year Agreement (5YA), in which each school's Board of Trustees decides how their funding will be allocated based on the following set of Ministry-established priorities:

1. Urgent health and safety expenditure.
2. Essential infrastructure maintenance.
3. Capital upgrades to enhance learning spaces.
4. Once these three priorities have been met, a school may, should it so desire, fund any discretionary projects.

5YA funding is calculated using a formula, which is detailed on the Ministry's website at the following link:

<http://education.govt.nz/school/property/state-schools/funding/5-year-agreement-funding/>

The College's receipt of 5YA funding for property maintenance is calculated using this formula. The College is therefore is not funded differently from any other state school.

A number of the College's buildings have significant weather-tightness issues. As the College's assets begin to reach the end of their economic life, significant plant and infrastructure upgrades will also be required. Given the scale of these issues, and the size of the College's roll and property, the Ministry and the Board of Trustees (the Board) agreed to develop a 20-year Asset Management Plan (the Plan) for the long-term remediation and upgrade of the College's capital assets. The Plan provides the information that has been used to develop both the College's current and next 10YPPs, and, consequently, the associated funding through their 5YAs.

Through our Capital Works team, we are working closely with the College's leaders and Board to manage the remediation of the weather-tightness problems. As mentioned, this work also includes necessary capital upgrades to plant and buildings. The initial investment required exceeded the level of funding that was provided through the College's standard 5YA allocation. Through the development of the Plan, the Ministry and the Board, in order to pay for these capital upgrades, agreed to bring funding forward from the College's second 10YPP and associated 5YAs. In order to mitigate urgent health and safety work, the Ministry also provided immediate funding for emergency works. This will lessen the amount of maintenance required in the College's second 10YPP, and, consequently, reduce the level of funding that will be provided through the 5YAs in the second ten year period.

To maintain the College's assets, over the next 20 years approximately \$18.5 million will be invested in its built environment, and an additional \$14.2 million has been or will be invested to remediate its weather-tightness problems.

The approach taken at the College represents best practice capital asset management, and will ensure efficient and effective investment to provide fit-for-purpose learning environments for students and teachers. It was informed by the College's unique situation, and, in so doing, provides a model that could be followed at any school should problems similar in scale be discovered. While each state school's 10YPP provides a standard level of capital investment for maintenance, we also maintain a level of flexibility in order to be able to respond to each school's unique environment. As detailed on our website, school's Boards of Trustees are responsible within their 5YA budgets for maintaining Ministry property at their sites. If unforeseen works arise, additional funding is available to ensure that all schools are able to provide their students with a learning environment that meets Ministry standards.

I trust this information explains the College's particular circumstances, and, in so doing, answers your questions. This letter has been copied to both the College's Principal and Board Chair.

If you have any questions about this response, please feel free to contact our Media Team at media@education.govt.nz.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision. You can do this by writing to info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Yours sincerely



Kim Shannon
Head of Education Infrastructure Service

cc: Patrick Gale, Principal, Rangitoto College
Charles Roos, Chair, Board of Trustees, Rangitoto College